uisite training. The railroad workers asked whether they should stop the trains with munitions arriving from Vladivostok or expedite their progress westward.

Without hesitation, we embraced the policy of national defense, stressing that the revolution had fundamentally changed the character of the war. The free people of Russia were no longer bound by the designs of the Tsarist government but had their own stake in the war. A victorious Germany would eventually restore the Tsar's power. The aim of free Russia was a just peace, but to achieve it the nation had to be strong and ready for sacrifices. We realized, of course, that this policy required elaboration and must include measures to promote a just peace, but in Irkutsk we had no opportunity to work out such measures. The political platform of the moderate Socialists who controlled the Citizens' Committee was formulated by Tseretelli and became known far beyond Siberia as a further development of the ideas of the Siberian Zimmerwaldist group.

RETURN TO PETROGRAD

Emma learned of the revolution en route from Irkutsk to Petrograd. She wanted to return, but the rails had been cut behind the train and she had to go westward. At the stations she saw jubilant crowds, people bewildered by the whirlwind of rumors and conflicting news. She found Petrograd in the same state of jubilation and confusion.

I left Irkutsk on March 24 with two score other political exiles. Our train was known officially as "the Train of the Deputies of the Second Duma," and its locomotive carried red banners with appropriate legends, but actually it was an ordinary train with two special cars for the exiles. The Citizens' Committee had made Tseretelli and me its emissaries to the Provisional Government.

The journey took ten days. We saw red flags and huge crowds at each station—peasants, soldiers, workers. The air was full of jubilation without a single discordant note. The people seemed united in devotion to the revolution. I had a vague feeling of uneasiness and apprehension, however, and asked myself how deep this enthusiasm was and how long it would last.

It took the newspapers eight or nine days to get from Petrograd or Moscow to Irkutsk. In Siberia we had only glimpses of current events from telegrams and learned details from the newspapers days later, when the news seemed old stuff. Now, traveling westward, we could absorb two days' information each day. Gradually the early days of the revolution began to emerge from the fog.